

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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## In the Claims

1           1.   [Currently Amended]   A method of document management,  
2   comprising:  
3           providing a document comprising an original document;  
4           scanning the document with a scanning machine configured to determine  
5   if the original document has a machine-readable code thereon; the scanning  
6   machine being further configured to extract at least some information from the  
7   machine-readable code if the machine readable code is present on the original  
8   document;  
9           providing a database of information that can be present in the machine-  
10   readable code on the original document, the providing the database of  
11   information comprising providing before the scanning; and  
12           comparing at least some of any information extracted from the machine-  
13   readable code by the scanning machine with the information in the database to  
14   track the document;  
15           determining whether copying of the original document is permitted using  
16   information of the comparing; and  
17           copying the original document if copying of the original document is  
18   permitted responsive to the determining.

1           2.   [Original]   The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the  
2   document comprises printing the document with a printing device which prints  
3   the machine-readable code on the document; and wherein the printing device is  
4   in data communication with the database.

1           3.   [Original]   The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning machine is  
2   linked with a copying machine configured for copying the document, wherein  
3   the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the document  
4   can be copied, and wherein the copier is configured to copy the document  
5   unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code on the document  
6   and extracts information from the machine-readable code not authorizing the  
7   copying.

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1           4.     [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning machine is  
2 linked with a copying machine configured for copying the document, wherein  
3 the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the document  
4 can be copied, and wherein the copier is configured to not copy the document  
5 unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code on the document  
6 and extracts information from the machine-readable code authorizing the  
7 copying.

1           5.     [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1 wherein the  
2 information included in the machine-readable code includes a storage location of  
3 a file corresponding to the document.

1           6.     [Currently Amended] A method of automated document tracking,  
2 comprising:  
3           generating a primary image on a document with either a printer or a first  
4 copying machine;  
5           printing a machine-readable code on the document as it is generated; the  
6 machine-readable code containing information, the printing device being in data  
7 communication with a database so that the information printed in machine-  
8 readable code on the document is also recorded in the database;  
9           scanning the document with a scanning machine configured to determine  
10 if the machine readable code is present on the document and further configured  
11 to extract at least some of the information from the machine-readable code; and  
12           comparing the information extracted from the machine-readable code by  
13 the scanning machine with the information in the database to track the  
14 document; and  
15           wherein the machine-readable code is configured such that it will not be  
16 fully reproduced on any copies formed by copying the original document with  
17 the second copying machine.

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1           7.     [Original] The method of claim 6 wherein the scanning machine is  
2 linked with a second copying machine configured for copying the document,  
3 wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the  
4 document can be copied, and wherein the second copying machine is configured  
5 to copy the document unless the scanning machine finds machine-readable code  
6 on the document and extracts information from the machine-readable code not  
7 authorizing the copying.

1           8.     [Original] The method of claim 6 wherein the scanning machine is  
2 linked with a second copying machine configured for copying the document,  
3 wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the  
4 document can be copied, and wherein the second copying machine is configured  
5 to not copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-  
6 readable code on the document and extracts information from machine-readable  
7 code authorizing the copying.

1           9.     [Canceled].

1           10.    [Currently Amended] The method of claim [[9]] 6 wherein the  
2 machine-readable code is printed with at least one of a resolution or tonal  
3 difference that cannot be reproduced by the second copying machine.

1           11.    [Currently Amended] The method of claim [[9]] 6 wherein the  
2 machine-readable code is printed with an ink that is not visible when viewed  
3 with only light in the visible wavelength range, said ink becoming visible when  
4 stimulated with light outside of the visible wavelength range.

1           12.    [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the machine-readable  
2 code is configured such that it is reproduced on copies formed by copying the  
3 original document with the second copying machine.

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1           13. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the second copying  
2 machine is configured with a second printing device that prints a new machine-  
3 readable code on any copies formed from the document.

1           14. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the document is  
2 generated with the first copying machine, and wherein the second copying  
3 machine and the first copying machine are the same copying machine.

1           15. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the second copying  
2 machine is configured to identify a user requesting a copy of the document,  
3 wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the  
4 document can be copied by particular users, and wherein the second copying  
5 machine is configured to not copy the document unless the scanning machine  
6 finds the machine-readable code and extracts information from the machine-  
7 readable code authorizing the copying by the user identified by the second  
8 copying machine as requesting a copy of the original document.

Claims 16-20 [canceled].

1           21. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1 wherein the  
2 information contained in the machine-readable code defines a version of the  
3 document and the scanning comprises scanning a scanned version of the  
4 document, and further comprising:

5           storing a digital representation of the scanned version of the document  
6 together with digital representations of other versions of the document using the  
7 database; and

8           determining that the digital representations of the other versions of the  
9 document are in the database.

1           22. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1 wherein the  
2 providing the original document comprises providing the document comprising a  
3 hard image formed for the first time on physical output media.

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1           23. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1 wherein the  
2 providing the original document comprises providing the document comprising a  
3 hard image formed for the first time on physical output media comprising paper.

1           24. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 6 wherein the scanning  
2 machine is linked with a processor that is in data communication with the  
3 database and in data communication with a second printer, and the determining  
4 comprises determining using the processor, and further comprising the processor  
5 enabling either the scanned version of the document or at least one of the a  
6 plurality of other versions of the document stored in the database as digital  
7 representations to be printed by the second printer.

1           25. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 6 wherein the  
2 generating comprises generating the primary image on the document comprising  
3 an original document, and the printing comprises printing the machine-readable  
4 code on the original document as it is generated.

1           26. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 6 wherein the  
2 generating the primary image on the document comprises forming the primary  
3 image on physical output media for the first time.

1           27. [Canceled].

1           28. [Canceled].

1           29. [Previously Presented] A document tracking method  
2 comprising:  
3           accessing a document comprising a machine-readable code;  
4           providing a database comprising a plurality of digital representations of a  
5 plurality of different versions of the document including a first version  
6 corresponding to the document and an other version corresponding to an other  
7 version of the document;  
8           extracting information from the machine-readable code of the accessed  
9 document; and

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10 determining the presence of the digital representation of the other version  
11 of the document within the database using the extracted information.

1 30. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 29 further comprising  
2 hard imaging one of the first version and the other version of the document after  
3 the determining.

1 31. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 29 wherein the  
2 accessing comprises accessing an original document.

1 32. [Currently Amended] A document tracking system comprising:  
2 an interface configured to access an original document comprising  
3 machine-readable code, and to generate a digital representation of the original  
4 document; and  
5 a processor coupled with the interface and configured to process the  
6 digital representation of the document to extract information from the machine-  
7 readable code, to access a database comprising additional information  
8 corresponding to the extracted information, and to compare the extracted  
9 information with the additional information to track the document; and  
10 wherein the processor is configured to use the extracted information to  
11 determine whether copying of the original document is permitted, and to control  
12 a hard imaging device to generate a hard copy of the original document if  
13 copying is permitted.

1 33. [Canceled].

1 34. [Previously Presented] The system of claim 32 wherein the  
2 database comprises a plurality of digital representations of a plurality of different  
3 versions of the document including a first version corresponding to the accessed  
4 original document and an other version corresponding to an other version of the  
5 document, and the processor is configured to determine the presence of the  
6 digital representation of the other version of the document within the database  
7 using the extracted information.

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1           35. [Previously Presented] The system of claim 34 wherein the  
2 processor is configured to enable the generation of a hard copy of at least one  
3 of the first version and the other version of the document using a hard imaging  
4 device.

1           36. [New] The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises  
2 determining only using the information of the comparing.

1           37. [New] The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises  
2 determining only using the information extracted from the machine-readable  
3 code and the information in the database.

1           38. [New] The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises  
2 determining without any information regarding an individual attempting to copy  
3 the original document.

1           39. [New] The method of claim 29 wherein the extracting comprises  
2 extracting the information from the machine-readable code of the accessed  
3 document corresponding to the first version.

1           40. [New] The system of claim 32 wherein the processor is configured  
2 to determine whether the copying of the original document is permitted only  
3 using the comparison of the extracted information with the additional  
4 information.

1           41. [New] The system of claim 32 wherein the processor is configured  
2 to determine whether the copying of the original document is permitted only  
3 using the extracted information and the additional information.

1           42. [New] The system of claim 32 wherein the processor is configured  
2 to determine whether the copying of the original document is permitted without  
3 any information regarding an individual attempting to copy the original  
4 document.

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